

Message Text

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ACTION NEA-09

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FM AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV

TO SECSTATE WASHDC NIACT IMMEDIATE 6178

INFO AMEMASSY AMMAN

AMEMBASSY CAIRO

AMEMBASSY BEIRUT

AMEMBASSY DAMASCUS

AMEMBASSY JIDDA

AMEMBASSY TEHRAN PRIORITY

AMCONSUL JERUSALEM

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UA: I CERTAINLY DON'T HOLD ISRAEL RESPONSIBLE FOR THAT SIUTATION
(LAUGHTER), AND NEITHER DO I THINK
THAT LEADERS OF THE ARAB WORLD
ARE A L SAINTS. NEITHER DO ITHINK THAT THEY ALWAYS COME DOWN UNDER
ALL CIRCUMSTANCES ON THE CAUSE OF JUSTICE AND PEACE. I HOPE I
HAVEN'T LEFT THAT IMPRESSION. WHAT I'M TALKING ABOUT IS A VERY
REAL SITUATION THAT EXISTS IN THE MIDDLE EAST OVER WHICH THE ISRAELI
GOVERNMENT, THE AMERICAN GOVERNMENT, THE EGYPTIAN GOVERNMENT
AND OTHERS DO HAVE SOME INFLUENCE. AND I THINK THAT THT'S
ENOUGH OF A PROBLEM WITHOUT GETTING INTO THE QUESTION OF THE
KURDS HERE THIS MORNING.

32. Q: SENATOR, TOURISM IS THE NUMBER TWO INDUSTRY IN ISRAEL. WHEN
YOU RETURN TO AMERICA, AT SOME PRESS CONFERENCE, WHAT WOULD YOU SAY
TO THE PEOPLE OF AMERICA COMING OVER HERE AS TOURISTS?

A: I THINK IT'S ONE OF THE FINEST AREAS OF THE WORLD, NEXT TO THE BLACK

HILLS OF SOUTH DAKOTA, AS A PLACE FOR TOURISTS. (LAUGHTER) I WOULD
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STRONGLY URGE, ON A SERIOUS NOTE, MORE AMERICANS TO VISIT THE MIDDLE

EAST. I WILL STRONGLY URGE MORE CONGRESSMEN TO VISIT THE MIDDLE EAST
BECAUSE I THINK IT'S AN AREA OF ABSOLUTELY CRUCIAL IMPORTANCE, NOT ONLY

TO THE UNITED STATES AND THE PEOPLE WHO LIVE HERE, BUT THE WHOLE PEACE

OF THE WORLD COULD VERY WELL DEPEND ON WHAT HAPPENS HERE. IT'S AN
AREA OF A RICH, GLORIOUS CULTURAL BACKGROUND AND A GREAT FUTURE. I'M
VERY CONFIDENT THAT PEACE IS GOING TO COME TO THE MIDDLE EAST. I'M
VERY CONFIDENT THAT THE PEOPLES HERE ARE GOING TO LEARN TO LIVE
TOGETHER, THAT THEY'RE GOING TO STRENGTHEN EACH OTHER. I DON'T
KNOW WHEN THAT PROCESS WILL BE COMPLETED, BUT I AM CONFIDENT THAT
THE REALITIES OF THE SITUATION HERE SOONER OR LATER ARE GOING TO
BE PERCEIVED AND THAT THE PEOPLE WHO LIVE IN THIS PART OF THE
WORLD WILL REALIZE THAT THEIR OWN PEACE AND PROSPERITY DEPENDS
ON GETTING ALONG WITH EACH OTHER. AND I SEE THAT AS
INEVITABLE IN THE PASSAGE OF TIME.

33. Q: DO YOU HAVE ANY INDICATIONS FROM EGYPTIAN LEADERS THAT THEY
WOULD BE WILLING TO ENTER INTO A NEW ROUND OF TALKS WITH ISRAEL BEFORE

THE CONVENING OF THE GENEVA CONFERENCE? AND ALSO YOU REFERRED
TO MODERATE LEADERSHIP IN THE ARAB COUNTRIES. DID YOU COME ACROSS
ANY LEADERSHIP THAT WAS OTHER THAN MODERATE?

A: OH YES. WE CAME ACROSS PEOPLE ALL OVER THE ARAB WORLD WHO..
NO, I DON'T WANT TO GET INTO PERSONALITIES, BUT OTHER THAN TO SAY
THERE ARE VERY STRONG ELEMENTS OF MODERATION IN THE ARAB WORLD AND ON

WOULD CERTAINLY HAVE TO RECOGNIZE THAT THERE ARE MILITANT EXTREMIST
ELEMENTS THERE. THERE ARE ALL SHADES OF OPINION. THE COURSE
OF WISDOM FOR US IS TO ALWAYS EVALUATE EVERYTHING WE DO IN TERMS OF
WHAT WILL GIVE FORCE AND STRENGTH TO THE FORCES OF MODERATION AND TO
NARROW THE AREAS OF OPPORTUNITY FOR THE FORCES OF EXTREMISM AND
VIOLENCE. NOW AS TO THE FIRST PART OF THE QUESTION ABOUT WHETHER EGYPT

WOULD NOW ENTER INTO ANOTHER BILATERAL ARRANGEMENT, THE SO-CALLED STEP-
BY-STEP APPROACH, PRIOR TO GENEVA, I'M UNABLE TO SAY, EXCEPT
TO REPORT TO YOU THAT AS OF A WEEK AGO WHEN WE TALKED TO PRESIDENT
SADAT, AND I THINK I WAS THE FIRST AMERICAN TO TALK TO HIM AFTER
THE BREAKDOWN OF THE TALKS, HE WAS VERY SHAKEN UP AND DISAPPOINTED
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BY THE OUTCOME OF THAT EXPERIENCE. AT THAT TIME HE SEEMED TO
SAY SOMEWHAT RELUCTANTLY THAT THE ONLY COURSE WAS GENEVA.
WHETHER THAT POSITION WILL CHANGE
I'M UNABLE TO SAY. THANK YOU
VERY MUCH. ENDQUOTE
VELIOTES

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